Ludlow

Table shewing Infectious Diseases occurring in the Borough during the year ending 31st December 1898.

	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid	Erisypelas
Number of houses infected	~	4	~	2	1
Number of persons attacked	~	6	~	2	1
Number of deaths	~	~	~	1	~

Scarlet Fever These have been mild cases and I have little doubt but what others have occurred too mild for recognition

Typhoid Fever There has been one fatal case in the Borough the origin of which was uncertain

Water Supply I am glad to be able to report that in spite of the long continued drought in August & September the water supply has been good both in quality and quantity All the analysis this year have been highly satisfactory Iron pipes have now been laid from Dinham Bridge for a considerable distance up the river thereby reducing any risk of contamination to a minimum

Sewage system. Our sewage system still remains in the same condition as last year but I am happy to be able to state that we are now within measureable distance of a new drainage system which I trust will prove effectual & not only for the Borough but for parts of the surrounding districts which from their lack of sanitation are dangerous nuisances to the health of this Town

The open sewer running from Holmes Hill through a portion of the Borough and also the one on the South side of Sowerby Bridge are dangerous nuisances which certainly ought never to have been allowed to exist and I trust the Sanitary Authority will take immediate steps to abate such grave defects.

Cottage Property and Unhealthy Areas In my last report I commented upon the discreditable condition of much of the cottage property in the Borough area and I feel deep regret that my recommendations - appeals to the authorities passerfully fanciful and - needlessly alarmist. I can only repeat my statement that there are many cottages and unhealthy areas in the Borough which ought to be done away with but that statement is now reinforced by the very grave fact that Vaccination has recently been made practically optional and the common plea advanced for neglecting this elementary precaution against small pox is that improved sanitary conditions - are a sufficient preventive. It is cheerfully to trust to the present sanitation of this Borough and in - my opinion should an outbreak of small pox occur a heavy responsibility will rest upon those who - tolerate the conditions which now exist It has further been proved to demonstration that consumption the most deadly disease known in this country is largely due to the neglect of simple sanitary - precautions the chief predisposing cause being - bad air consequent on overcrowding, ill ventilated and dark dwellings and insufficient cubic air space

Bye Laws I would like again to impress upon the - Sanitary Authority the importance of revising the present Bye Laws many of which are antiquated and useless and adding new ones more especially with reference to the following subjects namely - privies, pigsties and milk supplies

C. B. Causton

M. O. H

Ludlow.